

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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R 291145Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5481

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, FR, RW, CT

SUBJECT: ROBERT PICQUET, NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO THE
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

1. QUAI D'ORSAY HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ROBERT PICQUET, CURRENTLY AMBASSADOR IN RWANDA, WILL REPLACE JEAN LE CANNELLIER AS AMBASSADOR TO THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC. BORN ON AUGUST 31, 1918 IN THE SOUTHWEST OF FRANCE, PICQUET, AFTER COMPLETING HIS STUDIES IN PARIS AND TOULOUSE, AND AFTER HAVING FOUGHT IN THE FREE FRENCH FORCES DURING WORLD WAR TWO, BEGAN HIS CAREER ATTACHED TO THE FRENCH CONSULATE IN GENEVA (1945), WHERE HE SPENT FOUR YEARS. HE WAS NEXT ASSIGNED VICE CONSUL TO ATHENS (1949-1952), THEN TO THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION WHERE HE FOLLOWED EUROPEAN PROBLEMS. FROM 1954 TO 1957 HE WAS ATTACHED TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN ADDIS ABABA, WHERE HE RECEIVED HIS PROMOTION FROM SECOND TO FIRST SECRETARY. AFTER FOUR YEARS BACK AT THE QUAI D'ORSAY IN ASIAN AFFAIRS, HE BECAME CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW ORLEANS IN 1961 AND REMAINED THERE FOR FOUR YEARS. FROM 1965 TO 1968 HE WAS FIRST COUNSELOR IN BRAZZAVILLE AND FROM 1968 TO 1971 FIRST COUNSELOR IN OTTAWA. HE WAS NAMED

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AMBASSADOR TO KIGALI IN MAY 1972. PICQUET SPEAKS FLUENT

ENGLISH. HE IS MARRIED FOR THE SECOND TIME TO ROSE-MARIE MURAT AND HAS ONE DAUGHTER BY HIS CURRENT MARRIAGE AND TWO BY HIS FIRST MARRIAGE. HE HOLDS NUMEROUS MILITARY DECORATIONS. AMEMBASSY PARIS OFFICIALS HAVE HAD NO PERSONAL CONTACT WITH AMBASSADOR PICQUET.

2. POST WOULD APPRECIATE COPY OF WHATEVER ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AMEMBASSY KIGALI MAY WISH TO ADD.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
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Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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